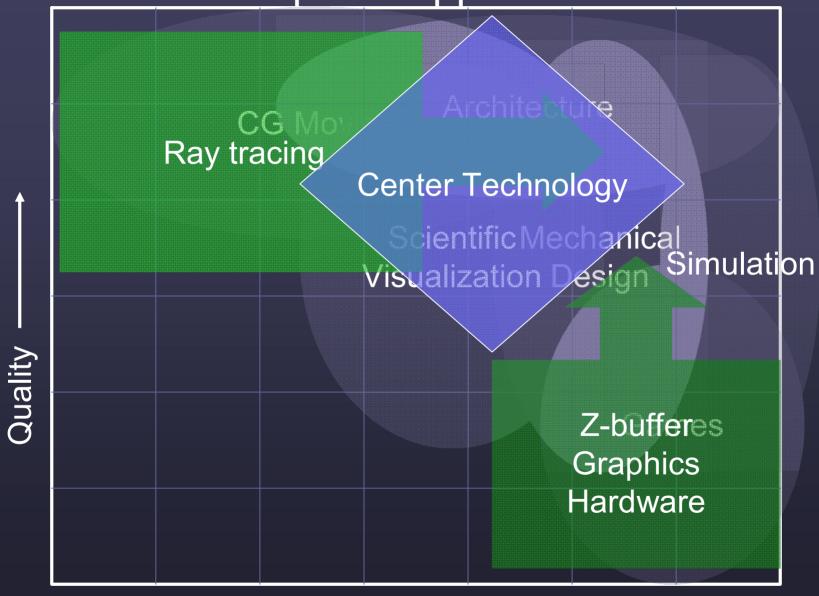
# Proposed Center for Interactive Ray Tracing and Photo Realistic Visualization

Steven Parker • Peter Shirley • Greg Jones



**Graphics Applications** 



Interactivity ·

Ray Tracing Center

### Interactive Ray Tracing

- Problem: Data glut
  - Computer graphics allows exploration
  - Data getting bigger, graphics not keeping up
- Industry solution:
  - Build sophisticated hardware designed for games
- Our solution:
  - Use a better algorithm
  - Take advantage of modern
     CPUs



Interactive Ray Tracing: Detroit Lions Stadium

#### Photorealism: Which is real, which is fake?

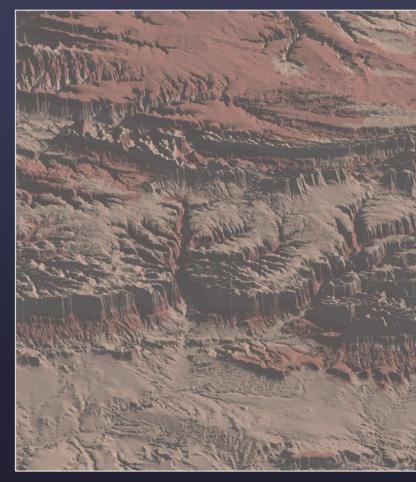




Wyman, U of Utah

### Why Ray Tracing

- Dataset trends:
  - Complex CAD models (Boeing 777: 100M+ polygons)
  - Medical scans reaching 10000x10000x10000 (4 Terabytes)
  - Scientific simulations routinely produce terabytes of data
- Hardware trends favor ray tracing



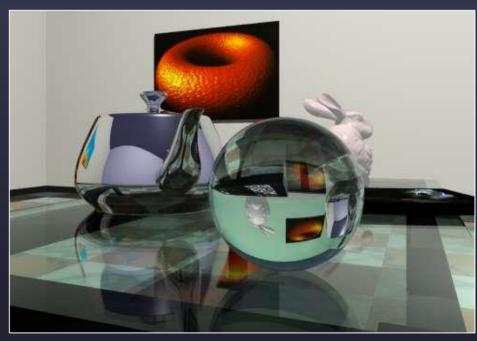
Interactive Ray Tracing: Escalante National Park

### Current Technology

- Developed at U of Utah over last 8 years
- Photorealism developed over last 20 years
- IEEE Visualization 1998: best paper award
- Rapidly becoming practical on commonly available

hardware

- Commercial grade system available < 1 year</li>
- Funded by:
  - National Science Foundation
  - Department of Energy
  - Honda
- Disclosed to Tech Transfer Office



Interactive Ray Tracing

#### Market Opportunity

- Hardware now inexpensive enough
- Several interested parties:
  - Large computer manufacturer
  - Los Alamos National Lab
  - Japanese automobile manufacturer
  - Oil/gas company
  - NIH
  - Numerous research groups

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Interactive Ray Tracing: Detroit Lions Stadium

#### Center of Excellence plans

- Current system funded and used by research
  - Over 15:1 leveraging for first year alone
  - A workhorse for scientists at the U
  - New features driven by research interests
- Center of Excellence will add products:
  - Software engineering support and hardening
  - New features driven by market interests
    - GUIs for specific markets
    - CAD interfaces
    - Tuning for specific market problems
    - Domain data import

#### Competitive Analysis

- High-end systems:
  - Maya, SoftImage, Mental Ray
- Hardware companies:
  - ATI, NVidia
- Several ray tracing projects in development:
  - InTrace, SGI, Intel, at least 3 others
- We have an 8 year head start on interactive ray tracing

#### Management Team

- Steven Parker PhD, PI
  - Architect of interactive ray tracing system
- Peter Shirley PhD, Co-PI
  - Author of two graphics books
- Greg Jones PhD, MBA, Co-PI
  - 8+ years industry experience
  - Member 2005 v|100 vSpring Top 100
     Venture Entrepreneurs
- Have worked together for 6+ years
- Successful prior Center of Excellence
- Additional marketing consultants will be hired

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Interactive Ray Tracing: Graphics Museum Walkthrough

#### Why this Center?

- Help breathe new life into Utah graphics industry
  - Industry began life at U of U
  - U of U still academic leader in graphics and visualization, but graduates leave the state
- Our technology is better than competition's
- Commercialization is the best way to prove our technology



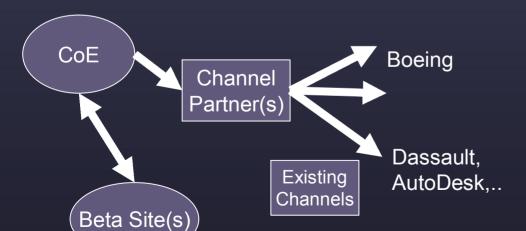
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### Marketing Strategy

- First Potential Market: Computer Aided Design/Manufacturing
  - Market Needs:Interactivity (speed),Realism, Fidelity





Interactive Ray Tracing: Headlight

#### Marketing Strategy

- Primary Channel Partner
  - Large multi-national hardware provider
    - Strong channels in multiple verticals
    - Large hardware installations in many verticals
      - GM, Honda, Ford, John Deere, etc...
    - Need unique software to pull hardware into the channels

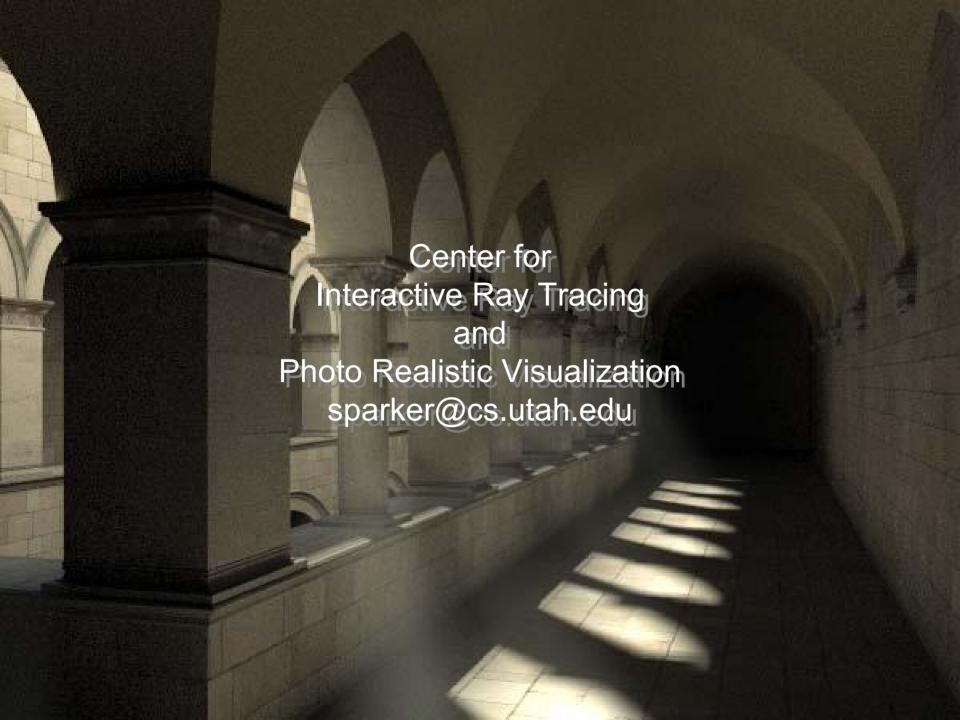
# Financial Projections for Manufacturing/Engineering Vertical

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Revenues	\$1,600,000	\$12,480,000	\$29,120,000	\$45,760,000	\$54,080,000
Expenses*	\$1,060,800	\$6,876,480	\$16,656,640	\$27,135,680	\$33,205,120
Income	\$539,200	\$5,603,520	\$12,463,360	\$18,624,320	\$20,874,880

<sup>\*</sup> Product specific expenses based on support, license, and channel partner expenses

#### Use of Funds

- In depth market analysis of target verticals
  - Manufacturing/Engineering
  - Entertainment
- Product hardening
- Vertical specific user interface development
- Beta site implementations



#### **Products Envisioned**

#### Software product:

- Interactive viewer for target applications
- User interface to make changes interactively
- Hardware bundle:
  - Commodity high-end workstation or low-end cluster
  - Center software
- Consulting services:
  - Improve performance for customer-specific data
  - Gateways to proprietary formats





## Rendering Algorithms

Basic idea: modeling the physics of light

- Rasterization (Z-buffer)
  - Invented at U of U in 1974
  - Hardware in every modern PC
  - High interactivity, increasing quality
- Ray tracing
  - Whitted 1980
  - High quality, increasing interactivity

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